Please amend the application according to the following instructions:

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 2.

Please amend the claims by replacing the claims with the clean versions below:

Sub B'

1. A data network comprising

a source that transmits data messages to a plurality of receivers, said receivers forming a multicast group, and wherein each of said plurality of receivers comprises

A'

a first apparatus that receives transmissions of data messages from the source to each of said plurality of receivers and accumulates statistics relating to said transmissions of data messages from the source to said receiver,

a second apparatus that computes a congestion control value and sends the value to the source, and wherein the source adjusts its transmission of data packets to the receivers as a function of a selected one or more of a plurality of congestion control values that it receives from respective ones of the receivers,

wherein the receivers forming the multicast group also form a multilevel hierarchical reporting network that forwards a congestion control value to the source, wherein a receiver positioned at each level in said multilevel hierarchical reporting network includes apparatus that computes a new consolidated congestion control value, said new consolidated congestion control value being a function of the congestion control

value that said receiver locally generates and a consolidated congestion control value that said receiver receives from receivers positioned at a preceding level in said multilevel hierarchical reporting network, and said receiver then forwarding said new consolidated congestion control value to the source via the next succeeding level in the multilevel hierarchical reporting network.

3. The data network of claim 1 wherein the source is positioned at the highest level in the reporting hierarchy.

10. The data network of 1 wherein the source inserts a time stamp in a data packet that it transmits to the multicast group of receivers and wherein the first apparatus associates a received data packet with a current time stamp and wherein said first apparatus includes apparatus that determines a trip delay from the source to each of said plurality of receivers as a function of the difference of the inserted time stamp and a current time stamp.

11. The data network of claim 1 wherein each receiver further includes third apparatus that determines a trip delay to the source via the reporting network as a function of a (a) time stamp that it associates with a message containing a congestion control value that the receiver forwards to a receiver positioned at the next highest level in the reporting hierarchy, and (b) trip delay returned by the receiver positioned at the next highest level, in which the returned trip delay is indicative of the trip delay from the latter receiver to the source.

14. The data receiver of claim 13 wherein said data receiver is one of a plurality of receivers that form a multicast group within the data network.

16. The data receiver of claim 13 wherein said data receiver uses a window based scheme to determine a maximum expected sequence number as its respective congestion control value, and wherein the source uses the minimum of the congestion control values that it receives as a maximum sequence number of a next packet that the source transmits to each said receiver.

24. A data transmitter comprising

a sequence number generator, and

a controller that (a) inserts the next generated sequence number in a data packet, (b) regulates transmission of the data packet based on a congestion control value determined using either a rate based or window based scheme and (c) transmits said data packet in accordance with said congestion control value to a group of receivers forming a multicast group of receivers, in which the congestion control value is selected from a group of congestion control values received from individual ones of the receivers.